

State Board of Education Meetings

Thursday-Friday, March 1-2, 2018

State Board Meeting Room, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska

[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)

[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the work session and business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website; emailed to news media requesting notification, and posting a copy of the agenda in the Office of the Commissioner of Education, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION – Thursday, March 1, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER – President John Witzel called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1.1. Roll Call

Lisa Fricke:	Present
Patsy Koch Johns:	Present
Patrick McPherson:	Present
Maureen Nickels:	Present
Molly O'Holleran:	Present
Patricia Timm:	Present
Rachel Wise:	Present
John Witzel:	Present
Commissioner Blomstedt	Present

1.2. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information by President Witzel

2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND AGENDA OVERVIEW

Commissioner Blomstedt updated the Board on the progress on Nebraska's ESSA plan and work. Spoke with Jason Botel, Assistant Secretary of Education, on February 28, and ongoing conversations with U.S. Department of Education staff regarding our plan. The conversation with Mr. Botel were specifics for our plan to be approved. Nebraska is among one-third of the states yet to be approved. The conversations were about an annual classification process and the Evidence Based Analysis (EBA).

Commissioner Blomstedt also updated the Board on the process for Priority School designation. Commissioner noted that Schuyler is the 4th school named as a priority school and noted the impacts it has on the school and community level. Dan Hoelsing, Superintendent of Schuyler Public Schools, is scheduled to present to the State Board during public comment on Friday, March 2.

2.1 Consent Agenda process

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the Consent Agenda process with the Board. Board Member Patrick McPherson asked that funding sources for Contracts under \$10,000.00 be provided in future board materials.

2.2 Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the attached Report on Rules with the Board, noting that Rules 21 and 24 were waiting approval by the Attorney General; and Rules 15, 23, 71, and 72, are waiting approval by the Governor.

2.3 Board Priorities and Policy Research – No report

3. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

3.1 Policy Committee

3.1.A. Action Item: John Gale Appreciation Resolution

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Appreciation Resolution for John Gale, Nebraska Secretary of State, for his contribution to civics education. The Committee recommends approval of the Resolution for presentation to Secretary Gale during the business meeting on March 2, 2018.

3.1.B. Discussion Item: Recommendations from the Nebraska Brain Injury Alliance

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the discussions with representatives from the Nebraska Brain Injury Alliance regarding a possible model policy or position statement that the Board could support.

3.2 Legislative Committee

3.2.A. Review 2018 Proposed State Legislation and Take Action on Board Positions

Rachel Wise, Chair, invited Brian Halstead to report out on activities for 2018 legislation. The Committee is working on legislative planning for 2019. The Committee will report to the Board in April on proposed actions for the remainder of the 2018 and priority listing for 2019.

Brian Halstead, Deputy Commissioner, updated the Board on various activities since the February meeting. He directed the Board to the attachment in Board materials stating the bills with positions and current status.

3.3. Commissioner's Appraisal Committee

John Witzel, Chair, informed the Board that the Commissioner's Appraisal for 2018 will be based on two parts: subjective and performance targets. Metrics will be from the Strategic Plan.

The Commissioner noted the first appraisal with the Strategic Plan. The process would include performance targets supported by evidence demonstrating progress from the Strategic Plan. Another part would be based on leadership abilities and organizational changes.

Mr. Witzel described the process and timeframe for conducting the appraisal. Board members will provide input prior to the April Board meeting, review of contract in May, and the final contract review in June.

3.4 AQuESTT - Teaching and Learning Domain Committee

Maureen Nickels expressed appreciation to the Committee members and NDE staff for their work and input.

3.4.A. Assessment

3.4.A.1. Discussion Item: Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS)

Valorie Foy and Jeremy Heneger, Department of Education representatives, share information from the Committee meeting with the Board. There was reference to the presentation in the Board materials included in the Agenda.

3.5 AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee

3.5.A. Positive Partnerships, Relationships and Student Success

3.5.A.1. Discussion Item: State of Nebraska School Security

Commissioner Blomstedt recognized Sheri Dawson with the DHHS Systems of Care and Michele Borg, on contract with the Department, working with student systems around the State.

Jolene Palmer, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of efforts across the state on school safety and assessments. Her presentation is included in the Board materials.

3.5.B. Transitions

- 3.5.A.1. Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve contracts with ESU #2, ESU #7, ESU #10, ESU #16, and ESU #17 to provide assistive technology services to Nebraskans, ages birth-21, as part of the ATP/Education Program

Tobias Orr, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of the ATP program and correcting an accounting error.

The Committee recommends approval.

3.5.C. Educational Opportunities and Access

- 3.5.C.1. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to approve School Improvement Grant (SIG) Supplemental Funds awards for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-2020 school years

Diane Stuehmer, Department of Education representative, reviewed the two School Improvement Grant awards, noting that Lincoln High School of Lincoln Public Schools, receiving \$70,000; and Umo n Ho n Nation Public Schools receiving \$40,000.

The Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.C.2. Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to enter into a contract with the Nebraska Department of Labor, accepting federal grant resources, to create a collaborative Workforce Investment Partners data system

Tibor Moldovan, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of the grant resources and the partnership with the Department of Labor.

The Committee recommends approval.

3.6. Budget and Finance Committee

- 3.6.A. Action Item: Accept the 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Audit Report

Bryce Wilson, Department of Education representative, reviewed the audit result of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Audit. Shane Rhian, Department of Education representative, provided an update on the Economic Forecasting Advisory Board meeting noting an increase to state fund revenue receipts.

The Committee recommends approval.

3.7. Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee

Patricia Timm, Chair, referred the Board to the report the Commissioner provided at the beginning of the Work Session.

4. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSIONS ITEMS

4.1. Meeting participation and joint meetings with policy partners

Board members shared reports on events attended since the February meeting.

4.2. Discuss requests for meetings that took place in the past and were not previously approved

There were no requests.

4.3. Discuss requests for future meeting attendance

Board members noted requests for future meeting attendance will be submitted on the Meeting Attendance Request Form.

4.4. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

The Travel Expense Report was noted.

5. ADJOURNMENT

President Witzel adjourned the Work Session at 4:26 p.m.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will convene at 9:00 a.m., Friday, March 2, 2018.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING , FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Roll Call

Lisa Fricke:	Present
Patsy Koch Johns:	Present
Patrick McPherson:	Present
Maureen Nickels:	Present
Molly O'Holleran:	Present
Patricia Timm:	Present
Rachel Wise:	Present
John Witzel:	Present
Commissioner Blomstedt	Present

1.2 President Witzel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 President Witzel announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act information.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Patrick McPherson: Approval of the minutes of the February 1-2, 2018 State Board of Education meeting as published.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Blomstedt recommended removal of Action Item 7.2 and Discussion Item 10.2, as no action is necessary.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patsy Koch Johns: Approval of Agenda as recommended.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

4.1 Requests for Appearance

4.1.A. Nebraskans for the Arts

Doug Zbylut - Executive Director of Nebraskans for the Arts, speaking in support of the importance of the arts as an essential part of a complete education

4.1.B. Schuyler Public Schools

Mr. Rich Brabec, president of the Schuyler School Board. (Handout) Mr. Brabec spoke on behalf of Schuyler Public Schools to the designation of Schuyler High School as a priority school.

4.2. Other Public Comment

- Jeff Cole, parent, speaking to passion of education, guns in schools, school safety, and diversity of programing
- Rachel Pinkerton (handout) speaking to Omaha Public Schools board and superintendent, LB 1069 Americanism statute; meeting with CCPSE and Chancellor Green
- Brent Comstock - Auburn, Nebraska – speaking in support of Arts Education and funding

President Witzel called for a break at 10:02. The meeting resumed at 10:20 a.m.

5. HEARINGS (None)

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION (None)

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Policy Committee

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patsy Koch Johns: Presentation of the Appreciation Resolution to John Gale.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

Patricia Timm read and presented the Appreciation Resolution to Secretary of State John Gale.

7.2. Legislative Committee

7.2.A. Review 2018 Proposed State Legislation and Take Action on Board Positions

Item was removed. No action taken.

7.3. AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee

7.3.A. Transitions

7.3.A.1. Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Patsy Koch Johns: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve contracts with ESU #2, ESU #7, ESU #10, ESU #16, and ESU #17 to provide assistive technology services to Nebraskans, ages birth- 21, as part of the ATP/Education Program.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

7.3.B. Educational Opportunities and Access

7.3.B.1 Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Patricia Timm: Authorize the Commissioner to approve School Improvement Grant (SIG) Supplemental Funds awards for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-2020 school years for Lincoln Public Schools for \$70,000 and Umo n Ho n Nation Public Schools for \$40,000.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

7.3.B.2. Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Lisa Fricke: Grant the Commissioner the authority to enter into a contract with the Nebraska Department of Labor, accepting federal grant resources, to create a collaborative Workforce Investment Partners data system.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

7.4. Budget and Finance Committee

7.4.A. Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Rachel Wise: Accept the 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Audit Report.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 8.1. Identify items for separate vote - None
- 8.2. Motion by Patrick McPherson, second by Lisa Fricke: Approve consent agenda as published.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

- 9.1. Jon Pickinpaugh, 2017-2018 Nebraska Milken Educator, 8th Grade Science Teacher, South Sioux City Middle School, South Sioux City, Nebraska. Mr. Pickinpaugh was presented with the Milken Obelisk by the Commissioner. Mr. Pickinpaugh expressed gratitude for the opportunity.

10. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 10.1. Meetings that took place in the past and were not previously approved

Item was removed. No action taken.

- 10.2. Future Meeting participation

Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Patsy Koch Johns: Approve future meeting participation.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Patrick McPherson:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Molly O'Holleran:	Yes
Patricia Timm:	Yes
Rachel Wise:	Yes
John Witzel:	Yes

The motion passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Witzel adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

A work Session will be held on Thursday, April 5, at 2:00 p.m. and a Board meeting held on

Friday, April 6, at 9:00 a.m. in the State Board Meeting Room at the State Department of Education Offices.